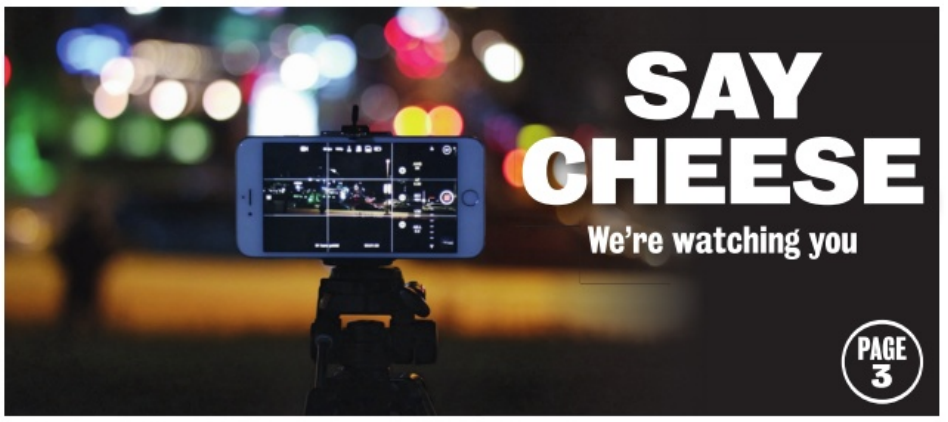
BENGALURU, TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 19 | Humidity 93% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 54,521 | Nifty 16,278 | Gold 50,317 | Silver 56,096 | Dollar 79.98 | Euro 81.28 | GBP 95.89



Free covid-19 vaccine booster dose drive witnesses biggest spike in number of individuals receiving shot on a single day in Bengaluru

JAB SEEKER

19,120 free shots administered on Sunday

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Day 3 of the free precautionary dose of covid-19 vaccine saw a considerable spike in the number of Bengalureans turning up at hospitals to receive the vaccine.

The number of precautionary doses administered so far was hovering in the range of 3,000 before the free booster announcement.

As many as 19,120 free shots were administered in the city on Sunday. Moreover, around 30,000 people above the age of 18 took the booster dose over the weekend.

This is the biggest jump noticed in the booster dose so far. While the total number of booster doses administered on July 15 was 3,065, it went up to 11,395 on July 16 and reached 19,120 on July 17.

According to the datasheet shared by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), this uptick in the number of booster doses was seen across all the cohorts including healthcare workers, frontline workers, people above

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

"Number of people coming to our hospital for booster dose has gone up by almost 30% after the announcement

— Dr Venkateshaiah, medical superintendent, KC General Hospital

Light in years

9,827 LED streetlights, 23 high-mast lights being installed in Mahadevapura

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In a relief to many citizens, over 9,000 plus LED streetlights would be installed in Mahadevapura zone in the next three months. As a result, many of the places sans streetlights shall soon get brighter as night falls.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) long-awaited project of installation of LED streetlights had failed to take off multiple times as many of the streets remained dark in the city.

The BBMP's plan was to replace sodium vapour street lamps with LED lighting. In Mahadevapura zone, streets along Alpine Eco Road, Gear School Road, Sarjapur Road or Graphite India Road, shall now be brighter with the installation of LED streetlights.

Last week, BBMP started the installation across the localities. Over 929 new streetlight poles with LED lights would be installed. A total of 9,827 LED lights will light up the zone. Over 23 high-mast lights will be set up too.

High-mast lights help in illuminating large areas. It is a type of site lighting fixture that is commonly used to illuminate large areas from a very high mounting height, for storage, transportation, and for the use and safety of pedestrians. High-mast fixtures are typically mounted on poles as tall as 40 to 150 feet, with four to 16 fixtures mounted on each pole. Each pole is likely to have 8-10 lamps.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Culture Chutney

Indiranagar SOCIAL is all set to host the 10th episode of Culture Chutney in collaboration with The Art and Flea Project, a festival showcasing the best homegrown talents from the city including handpoke tattoo, piercings, and more. Some of the hottest upcoming brands and artists will be there to spoil you silly, along with fun workshops.
Where: Indiranagar SOCIAL
When: July 23 - 24, 12pm - 7 pm
Contact: 8657896572

02 It's Perfect Strangers!

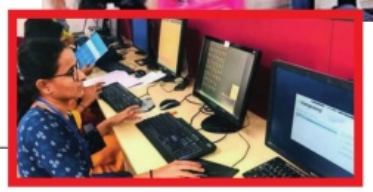
As part of stellar performances lined up at Hard Rock Cafe St Marks Road, Perfect Strangers is going live on Saturday. It's a tribute night to two iconic American music bands Toto & Steely Dan, by local Bangalore band Perfect Strangers. Catch the performance with Perfect Strangers playing some of the most celebrated pop hits like My Old School, Kid Charlamagne, Rosanna, Pamela, and Stop Loving You to name a few.
Where: Hard Rock Cafe, St Marks Road
When: July 23, 7 pm onwards

03 Write Out Loud

Lahe Lahe brings to you an evening of baring your soul on paper. Every Tuesday, participate in a heart-plucking session of poetry, and good company. Come, share your poetry in a circle and unwind.
Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: July 19, 7.30-9.30 pm, Contact: 9886294444

Training them in hope, confidence & life hacks

Skill development programme seeks to help youths be self-reliant by teaching them vital skills and giving them job opportunities



From computer knowledge to spoken English, youths are trained in important life lessons

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> **"Five rag-pickers who used to sleep amid garbage initially, got jobs at Rs 12,000 a month after training and live in rented accomodation** –Subramanian NH, trustee

Like many youngsters, Renju, a native of Kollam, suffered from stage fright and had very low self-confidence in her undergraduate days at St Mary's College in her hometown. But all that changed when she shifted to Bengaluru and joined a skill development programme by Unnati Foundation. Today, she can speak confidently in public, along with mastering several other life hacks.

Renju is one of at least 500 such youths under the foundation that was set up by the Shri Guruvayurappan Bhajan Samaj (SGBS) in 2003. What began with a mere five unemployed youths under the skill development programme, today is a strong network across the country that has made more than 55,000 youths self-reliant through its programmes at 30 centres.

"We are contemplating providing job opportunities to 5,000 unemployed youths this year," said Ramesh Swamy, Director, Unnati Foundation.

The foundation provides accommodation, food and training for 35 days at a nominal fee of Rs 5,000. Jobs are guaranteed for those who joined the programme. "We have tied up with many corporate companies and business establishments. They visit Unnati Foundation to recruit people," said Ramesh.

Most of the youths -- hailing from rural areas or economically weaker families -- often lack communication skills. The programme strives to change that. "I am earning Rs 16,000 per month at HDB, Kalyan Nagar. I hope to send money to my parents," said Chaitra Ramesh Madivalar from Chittapur in Gadag district. Chaitra is from the 117th batch at Unnati Foundation.

The youths are trained in Tally, spoken English, computer know-how, life skills, etiquette and confidence-building. "I am confident of getting a job. I hope to be self-reliant in future," said V Jyachandra from Byreddipalli of Palamaner taluk in Chittoor District.

Renju narrates how she used to hesitate to go up on stage and speak during cultural programmes at her college. "Now, I have no stage fear. I am also learning Tally."

Unnati Foundation has its centres at Whitefield, Belagavi, Ballari, Bidar, Chitradurga, Davangere, Harihar, Hospet, Hubli, Humnabad, and Raichur. "We have change-makers at these centres. They will visit government colleges to train final-year students. This programme is called UNXT and we hope to train 20,000 students," said Ramesh Swamy.

According to Subramanian NH, one of the trustees, Unnati Foundation needs to spend Rs 12,000 on each student for 35 days but it usually collects only Rs 5,000 and appeals to donors to bear the remaining cost.

But more than giving them jobs, persuading such individuals is the Herculean task. Subramanian reminisces how he had to struggle a lot to convince seven rag-pickers to attend training five years ago. "After undergoing training, all of them were provided jobs for Rs 12,000 per month. They used to sleep in garbage earlier. After getting jobs, they took a rented accommodation for their families. It was a big transformation."

"Shortage of funds has become a concern due to the pandemic. Earlier we used to accommodate 60 students per batch but now accommodate 30 students," said Ramesh.

The foundation is also organising Gokulashtami celebrations at Odukkathur Mutt, on Gangadhara Chetty Road from August 6 to 28 as a fundraiser. To know more, visit unnatiblr.org.

Aspiring medicos want second chance at NEET

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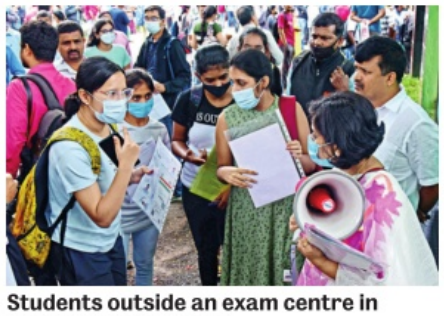
A day after the National Testing Agency (NTA) conducted National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) across the country, students are demanding a second attempt at the entrance examination.

NEET, a common entrance exam for all medical courses in the country, was conducted across India on Sunday, July 17. According to reports, it had 95 per cent attendance.

Students say they did not have ample time to prepare, and so, deserve a second chance.

"JEE gets two attempts at the examination; so many other UG exams also get two attempts in a year. Every year several lakhs of students give the NEET exam and yet, only 10 per cent of them get admissions in good government colleges where they can afford the fees. The remaining students waste an entire year," said Shruthi Singh, a medical aspirant from Bengaluru. "We got nine months to prepare and in so many parts of the country the students were facing problems due to floods and heavy rains."



Students outside an exam centre in Bengaluru on Sunday

Many students have been tweeting on social media, planning to bring the matter to Delhi High Court and file a petition.

Advocate Parikshit Sharma from Delhi High Court responded to the tweets by students "Petition for second attempt would require sufficient grounds and consent of large number of applicants."

Abhilasha Sharma, who appeared for the exam on Sunday, said because the medical courses private colleges are so expensive, they cannot get admission in any of the medical colleges without a good percentile. "Not everyone can afford a college with Rs 50 lakh to 1 crore fee. Medical colleges are so expensive and our only option is government or semi-government colleges. But the seats are so limited."

Not all students, however, are in favour of a second attempt.

"I do not think a second attempt is going to help as there are only limited number of seats. We already waited for the government to postpone the exam. If students are doubtful about their performance, then they should just start preparing for next year or look for other career options," said Prashant, another medical aspirant.

The students mentioned that NEET had the highest number of registered candidates this year, increasing the competition. Some students on Twitter even demanded to scrap NEET and bring back state-level entrance examination for medical courses.

Say cheese, only if you follow all rules

Traffic police are clicking pictures of violation on their phone cameras to take as evidence

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If you are ride or drive on city roads, mind you it is not just surveillance cameras that are monitoring you, but cops' phone cameras too have an eye on you. Traffic cops who stand on the roads either managing traffic or trying to catch offenders are now increasingly 'catching' the violations via clicks on their mobiles.

A traffic police officer said, "When we are managing traffic, many motorists tend to assume that they can violate traffic rules as we are busy monitoring. However, we need to instill discipline so we are using our mobile phones to capture the violations. These violations are uploaded in the app and challans are sent to the violators."

Another cop said that usually, when violators are served notice, they demand evidence as they come up with all kinds of stories to prove that they were never present at the venue. "The mobile phone pictures can serve as proof for the violations," he said. And with smartphones becoming a norm, many cops were now buying phones with good camera resolutions.

Another traffic police said, "People tend to violate traffic at smaller junctions where they assume that there are no surveillance cameras around. We have seen this trend especially near school junctions where parents refuse to wear helmets while dropping their kids for shorter distances. It may be difficult for us to catch the violators physically. Hence the easiest way is to capture the violations via mobile phone."

He said that many are still not aware of this. "We want Bengalureans to strictly follow rules as there are hundreds of traffic cops on city roads and with mobile phone cameras, each of them can act as a surveillance camera."

PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

No stopping without a valid reason

Meanwhile, after DG and IGP Praveen Sood's diktat, there is a considerable reduction in the number of motorists and vehicle users being stopped for document checking. However, cops are still monitoring the roads.

A traffic cop told Bangalore Mirror, "We have been asked not to stop if there are no violations prima facie. However, we are always on the look out for those without helmets, seat belts and defective number plates and other violations. Many have mistaken the DG's tweet to assume that no one will be caught.

In the last two days, we have seen many riders without helmets on the road as they assume that cops won't be on the road at all to catch them." Sood had said on Monday, "I stand by my earlier order which was implemented as Bengaluru City police commissioner that no vehicle shall be stopped only for checking documents unless it has committed a traffic violation visible to the naked eye. Only exception is drunk driving."

Motorists welcome the move but with caution. "We have observed many times that cops are more interested in stopping people than managing traffic. I have seen cops standing to just catch people even if there is traffic congestion in proximity. The new diktat from Sood is welcome but one needs to see how long this will be implemented. Even when Sood had first issued this diktat when he was commissioner, gradually, the cops were back to stopping motorists. Hope the new diktat is followed both in letter and spirit," said Sandesh R, a college student.

See violation before you catch

Sood has once again issued a diktat to cops to not to stop vehicles if they don't find any visible violation. The latest order was issued after complaints from motorists that despite the previous order, cops were still standing on the road and stopping motorists to check documents. Sood said that the new order will be implemented across the state and no cop should stop the motorsts unless a violation is seen.

Suspected poaching attempt at BNP thwarted

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Fresh fear of poaching at the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) gripped forest department personnel after a man was arrested with a weapon for illegal entry.

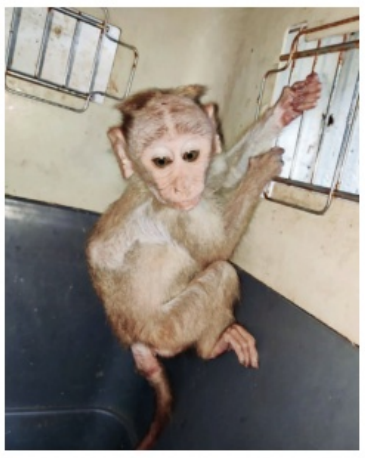
According to a forest department official, two persons had entered the Ragihalli reserve forest area of Bannerghatta National Park with weapons on Friday. After getting the information on this, the Anti Poaching Camp (APC) staff of BNP alerted the night patrolling team.

"We had deployed staff immediately after getting the information in anticipation of any illegal activity. Forces mobilised within a short period of time and caught hold of a person named Joseph Raju, a 40- year-old male from Tattaguppe, located within the buffer zone of BNP. A 26-year-old male (Vishal) from the village is absconding," said the official.

Officials say the poachers could be nabbed before they could kill wildlife due to the ramped-up infrastructure facility to prevent poaching attempts.

"We have anti-poaching camps at strategic locations in the park. While we conduct patrolling regularly, the intensity is high on certain days. The forest is more vulnerable to poaching on days before festivals. In this case, there was a village festival on Saturday. We had anticipated this and put on staff on high alert at strategic locations. The APC is manned by four people and is our backbone when it comes to preventing wildlife poaching," said Prabhakar Priyadarshi, deputy conservator of forests, BNP.

Firemen, volunteers pull off amazing baby monkey rescue



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A baby macaque, not more than a month-old that had got trapped in a metal mesh of a balcony of a second-floor apartment in Basavanagudi, was rescued in the wee hours by fire personnel and volunteers from the People for Animals Hospital.

The macaque's hind limbs were trapped in the mesh so the other monkeys in the troop including its mother waited for sometime, but they could not do much, so later they moved away. The baby macaque was crying bitterly through the night when a resident of the apartment, Mohan, called the animal rescue volunteers around 11.40 pm.

Wildlife rescuers Mohan Gowda, Mohammed Ashfak, and Salman Khan immediately set out to the rescue location and reached the spot at 1 am. They found that the monkey was trapped on the second floor, around 50 feet above ground level, so they informed the Fire and Emergency services. Within 10 to 15 minutes, a team of four fire-men came along with a fire-tender and only with the fire-truck ladder, they could access the balcony from where the macaque was safely rescued.

"The baby macaque had some kind of a spinal deformity, likely a spinal diverticulum and it was unable to stand and had no sensation in its hindlimbs which had gotten trapped in the mesh. The macaque did not have any fresh wounds except for the deformity. This needs prolonged treatment," veterinary surgeon colonel Dr Navaz Sharif told BM.

Soon after the rescue, an animal lover posted about the incident on social media and there were all praises for the three PfA wildlife rescuers, and the four firemen identified as Vincent, Chandrashekarappa Madar, Shreenivasa, and Mallappa for reaching out during the wee hours to save a baby monkey's life. The baby macaque has been named Gollu and will be rehabilitated with all care, veterinarians at PfA said.

Picking holes in the road

Commuters of Vajarahalli 100 Feet Road struggle to traverse the pothole-laden route

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The Vajarahalli 100 Feet Road leading to the Turahalli forest is difficult to navigate after a spell of rain

The roads leading to the popular destination for cyclists, Turahalli forest have become bad news for vehicle owners in the area. With potholes on most roads and encroachment of footpaths, motorists are having a tough time.

Residents living in gated communities are struggling to find good roads in the area. Many adjoining roads starting from the Vajarahalli 100 Feet Road are in bad shape which residents claim has led to an increase in accidents.

A frequent commuter of the 100 feet road said that the road is unmotorable.

"The situation on these roads is extremely terrible. Authorities have been making patchwork repairs to the road and they get undone soon enough. After laying the Cauvery line, the roads were fixed with patchwork. You can't even call them potholes as they are huge enough to be called craters. While driving through some potholes, the chassis of the car touches the bottom," the commuter said.

During the late night, the streetlights are not switched on and two-wheelers have to manoeuvre through this bumpy stretch without adequate lighting. "For the past 1.5 years some BWSSB work has been undergoing which might not finish even by next financial year," said Ravishankar, from Balaji Layout.

Vijayan Govindarajan, a resident of the area, said there are 32 potholes from the entry point of Kanakapura Road leading to Turahalli Forest. "For the past two years, we have been complaining about the situation to BBMP and BDA with no response. The road is crucial to connecting Banashankari 6th stage to Kanakapura Road. The road is used by heavy vehicles and school buses. Many accidents have happened on this road. The 100 feet road is also in shambles. Authorities have been shifting blame from BBMP to BDA," said Govindarajan.

> **"For the past two years, we have been complaining about the situation to BBMP and BDA. The road is used by heavy vehicles and school buses**
>
> –Vijayan Govindarajan, resident

80 Feet Road is in a similar condition. Goutam Kamath, a resident, said, "Potholes keep appearing and disappearing due to shoddy work. There have been instances of vehicle tyres, shock absorbers and a few petrol tanks getting damaged. When it rains, the stormwater drains get flooded as the stormwater drain has not been cleaned for years. We have lost faith in BDA and we want them to hand over the locality to BBMP."

"Once, it's moved under BBMP limits, we will be able to push for changes through ward committee meetings. Despite us paying property tax to BBMP, BBMP is only managing solid Waste and footpaths and roads belong to BDA" he added.

Residents complain that due to the vast area, BBMP has not even been able to manage the stretch properly and hope the recent delimitation exercise will be helpful.

Arun, a resident of another apartment complex, said, "A couple of years ago, BESCOM authorities cut open the road and it was fixed improperly. The pothole near Liberty Square pipeline road junction has been untouched for 10 years." Residents of the another apartment complex in the area say that the road becomes a risk for commuters, especially with it leading to a school. "There are 5-6 apartments and the road is so narrow that it leads to bumper-to-bumper traffic. Because of a school and KSIT, there is more traffic congestion," a resident said.

"Cauvery line underwork has added to the choking of the road so we are asking for alternate roads. The combination of potholes and school buses is a recipe for accidents," said Sriram Balasubramanyam, a resident of the area. A few senior citizens too are said to have been injured trying to cross the road.

Unsatisfactory repair work

Secretary of Changemakers of Kanakapura Road, VK Srivatsa said, "Under the 110 villages, BWSSB has been digging up roads and laying pipelines. But the roads are not getting repaired properly. The 100-feet road used by has potholes and open manholes. BBMP says that the road belongs to BDA and BDA says that BWSSB should fix the roads and BWSSB claims that BDA has been paid for fixing the road. Residents are in the crosshairs of authorities passing the buck."

After repeated complaints, BDA officials and traffic officials are said to have made temporary repairs to the roads, but most residents are cynical about its quality.

Sign board clean-up day on Magadi Road

Cleaning sign boards won't reduce traffic congestion, experts call it a gimmick

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As an initiative to improve the traffic situation in the city, the Magadi Road traffic police staff cleaned the traffic sign board within their limits on Sunday. According to the police officers, this would help make the sign boards visible to motorists and the public.

A traffic cop from the Magadi Road station told Bangalore Mirror, "The staff from our police station cleaned almost 150 to 200 sign boards in the nearby area. This would increase their visibility for motorists and would decrease road accidents."

The traffic cops also said that other divisions should also start following the same. The traffic sign boards have been tarnished due to bad weather and heavy rain.

The traffic police staff cleaned almost 150 to 200 sign boards on Magadi Road

Lately, traffic authorities along with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) officials, and city police have started to discuss measures to decongest the roads. According to the Traffic Index Report, Bengaluru has one of the highest traffic congestion among Indian cities.

Commuters appreciated the efforts of the traffic police. "I think it is a good effort by the traffic police to look over the maintenance of traffic sign boards themselves. It will definitely make the sign boards more visible to people during the heavy rain when it is harder to see," said Suresh RS, a pillion rider. However, traffic experts say that the initiative wouldn't make a huge difference in traffic and accidents. Instead, the cops should focus on decongesting the roads and footpaths.

MN Sreehari, founder and chairman of the Indian Smart City Development Organization and retired traffic adviser, said, "I do not think it will make a huge difference. When someone is driving they look at the road more than the sign boards. If the roads are blocked then what is the point? If the traffic police really want to make a difference they should clear the roadside parking which will actually help the motorists and drivers by clearing the streets. All this is just a gimmick. They might gain appreciation from the people but it wouldn't make much of a difference in the traffic situation of the city."

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Faux footpath
Kengeri

There is a sudden dip in the pavement. It can prove quite lethal to pedestrians if they are not extra-careful and needs some serious attention.

No place to stand
Kottigepalya

Construction work near Kottigepalya bus stop is a hurdle for those waiting for buses.

Slippery road
Ullal

This stretch of the road on Ullal Main Road is dangerous to motorists as vehicles can skid.

Monsoon break to dig-work in Bengaluru

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Sick of all the roads being dug up? Well, then at least for the next three months there is a break from relentless upheavals as the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has called for a 'monsoon holiday'.

Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has issued a diktat to officials and contractors not to take up any major work (especially road digging) till the South West Monsoon withdraws from the City skies. As per the Met department prediction, the South West Monsoon usually withdraws by October 15 year though the exact day may vary.

BBMP's Special Commissioner (Health and IT) Dr KV Thrilok Chandra said, "The CC has already given instructions that there should be no planned activities to be taken up in BBMP limits for the next three months. However, emergency workers will be exempted from this. Though road works can be taken up, digging should be strictly avoided. We will book cases against the agencies concerned if they are found to violate this order."

Meanwhile, BBMP claims that the BESCOM and BWSSB have submitted their annual action plan. "To avoid confusion, we have decided to go for data sharing. So, we had asked for a detailed annual action plan from the BWSSB and BESCOM and both the utility bodies have already submitted their plan. This helps in coordinated works and probably prevent roads from being dug after asphalting," Chandra said.

Chief Commissioner issues diktat to officials and contractors not to take up any big work, especially road digging, till rains recede

Good news for Airport Road

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Road experiences heavy traffic, but in the rains, it gets jammed due to water gushing on to it. Nath said, "As the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has failed to construct drains near Dasarahalli junction, the water flows on the road. An apartment complex nearby has let the sewage water onto the road as well, so we have asked the BWSSB to fix the issue."

2.5 sq m is average size of pothole

Nath said that work on pothole filling will continue as usual. So far, 16,000 plus potholes have been filled. The BBMP is now considering using python machines for pothole filling. "Rs 598 will be paid per square metre of pothole filled by python machine as against Rs 568 per square metre using manual methods. The average size of potholes in Bengaluru is 2.5 square metres. However, python machines are preferred for pothole filling due to quality of work."

Plastic's out so eateries now serving sustainably

Restaurants, get creative trying to come up with alternatives to plastic for packaging and serving food

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Restaurants and eateries in the city are doing their best to find creative and pocket-friendly alternatives to plastic in the backdrop of a strict ban being implemented. They say that this is even more of a challenge as increasing dish prices is not an option.

Joel J, who runs Café Casavista in Dasarahalli, said that looking for alternatives for plastic was vital because in April, they had increased the prices of food items. "We cannot do that again because people will stop coming. We have now shifted to using cardboard boxes for packing the food. Usually, things like sauce would be given in a small plastic cup, however, now we are using small paper cups."

Some restaurants choose to ask patrons to carry their own bags. Neil Rosario, General Manager of the Indiranagar outlet of Three dots and a Dash, said, "We now use foil for the packaging of takeaway items. Sometimes, when the order is big in size, we encourage people to bring their own bag as we have completely stopped the usage of plastic. For now, we have stopped the takeaway of certain items as well. Once we come up with an alternative, we will start the takeaway service again."

"We are now using cardboard boxes for packing the food. And for sauces, now we are using small paper cups instead of plastic ones
–Joel J, cafe-owner

Cups made of chaff are being used for coffee takeaway

The restaurant owners are trying to get creative with using alternate ways of packaging things since plastic has been banned. Ashish D'Abreo, co-founder of Maverick & Farmer, a coffee shop, explained that the cup for packing coffee contains a thin film of plastic inside. For now, as is no solution, they have created a reusable cup. This cup is made of coffee chaff which a byproduct of the roasting process. "This chaff is collected and sent to make the reusable cups. The customers can buy these cups and we ask them to bring these cups back whenever they are coming in the store, and we will give them a discount on their coffee whenever they bring in the cup."

BANNED PARTY

- A ban on the use of single-use plastics was notified by the Union Environment Ministry in August 2021 and came into effect on July 1.
- The ban has done away with disposable plastics like straws, cutlery, earbuds, cigarette packs, and plastic sticks for balloons among others
- Plastic plates, cups, glasses and trays are made from single-use plastics
- Plastic carry bags and bottle makers have been given different specifications for phasing out the manufacturing of these products. For instance, manufacturers are allowed to produce 75 microns plastic carry bags till December 2022

BangaloreMirror
Fine time: ₹2L, days after plastic ban
BBMP confiscates 700 kg single use plastic between July 1-3

BM had reported on July 6 that Rs 2L was collected as fine days after the plastic ban came into effect

Alternatives

Meanwhile, stocks in the paper and paper products manufacturing business have outperformed the overall broader market indices in 2022 in line with the move to phase out single-use plastics.

Experts believe paper can be a major alternative as bamboo as a raw material is produced in abundance in the country, and it's highly biodegradable .

Jewel thieves' splurge comes to an end

The Yeshwanthpur police on Monday arrested a salesman of a jewelry shop for stealing gold valuables over the past one year and pawning them through his friend. He is said to have used the money to spend lavishly on his family.

The accused Chethan Nayak has been working as a salesman at the Best Jewelers on Triveni Road for the past four years. The incident came to light when the owner of the jewelry shop noticed that a necklace kept in the showcase that had to be delivered for a customer, went missing. When the owner checked with Chethan, he feigned ignorance and the owner checked the CCTV footage only to find out that it was Chethan who had pocketed the necklace.

The owner then checked more footage and learnt that Chethan has been taking jewellery from his shop.

Based on the owner's complaint, the cops picked up Chethan and after a detailed questioning led to his partner Vijay. According to the police, Chethan would hand over the stolen jewels to Vijay who would pawn them at one a shop.

According to the police, both the accused were spendthrifts and also had some addictions. They would take their wives to expensive bars and restaurants, it is said.. —BMB

Lake, once upon a time

With no help in sight, residents, volunteers try to rescue Hosakerehalli Lake from trash

Iffath Fathima
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One of the historic lakes of the city, Hosakerehalli Lake is now in dilapidated condition. The authorities haven't taken any steps to rejuvenate the lake and now the citizens have come forward to clean up the lake to get its lost legacy back.

Back in 2017, the lake was taken up for rejuvenation, it was desilted and the entire area was cleaned up. However, it was not maintained after that and soon the lake got into a bad state.

It was the same year when a mantapa was rediscovered during the rejuvenation.

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) had taken up to uplift the lake by fencing it and diverting the sewage, and had also cleaned the whole area. But the restoration work didn't go on for long, and with negligence from authorities, it got ruined within months.

The lake is however now with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The BBMP has stated that tenders have been floated and the lake would be rejuvenated soon. Meanwhile, residents of Hosakerahalli have voluntarily carried out initiatives to clean and restore the lake along with The Indian Ploggers Army and Jhatkaa.org.

Rachna Ravi Kiran, a resident of Hosakerahalli, who has been residing near the lake for 20 years, said, "The lake is in a bad condition. We have been staying here for years and have seen no improvement. In 2017, we saw the lake getting rejuvenated. But it did not last for long. Now it has turned into a garbage dumping ground, with both wet and dry waste being dumped daily. It is an ordeal we are going through every day, with mosquito breeding and even rodents around the lake. People come here only to dump garbage and not to visit the lake. As it is stinking, nobody wants to visit the lake."

Residents of Hosakerahalli carried out initiatives to clean and restore the lake along with The Indian Ploggers Army and Jhatkaa.org. They picked the trash from the lake's vicinity

> **We cleared out three auto tippers full of trash near the lake. Once the lake starts to get cleaner, other plans can be taken up** –Rachna Ravi Kiran, resident

The residents joined hands with BBMP as well to carry out the cleaning process.

"We are trying to find a solution to the revival of the lake. We have approached the authorities and the BBMP has stated that they would start the rejuvenation in a month. But it now looks like a dream. We have now started cleaning up the lake and are even carrying out awareness. Students from the global academy of technology joined us to clean up the lake as well. With heaps of trash and monsoon season, the condition was only getting miserable. We cleared out three auto tippers full of trash near the lake. Once the lake starts to get cleaner, other plans can be taken up for rejuvenation," added Kiran.

The residents also pointed out that since the lake borders two wards, even many locals from Rajarajeshwari Nagar come and dump waste here. As there is no fencing around the lake, it makes it easier for people to dump trash.

Raj from The Indian Ploggers Army said, "We will see to it that frequent clean-ups are done in the lake so that the dumping completely stops. And even marshals have said that they will support us."

Many migratory birds used to visit the lake. However, now the birds are nowhere to be seen, pointed out the residents. "The lake has lost its biodiversity. We see peacocks around our area at times. Many birds could come in and it could be a biodiversity hotspot again," a resident said.

Presidential election: Karnataka among states with 100% polling

A total of 11 states and one union territory including Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Puducherry, Sikkim, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu recorded 100 per cent voting on Monday in polling for the election of the 15th President of India. Polling concluded successfully in free manner at the Parliament House on Monday and in each of the 30 places of poll in State Legislative Assemblies including Legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi and UT of Puducherry.

There were two contesting candidates — Draupadi Murmu and Yashwant Sinha for the 16th Presidential election.

Former PM & JD(S) Supremo HD Deve Gowda casts his vote for the election of President at Vidhana Soudha on Monday

As per the Election Commission, of a total of 771 Members of Parliament entitled to vote (5 vacant), and similarly out of total 4,025 Members of the Legislative Assemblies entitled to vote (6 vacant and 2 disqualified), over 99 per cent cast their vote on Monday. However 100 per cent voting by MLAs was reported from Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Puducherry, Sikkim, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu.

Election to the office of President is one of the most important elections, which the Election Commission conducts vide the mandate of Article 324 of the Constitution.

—IANS

Bomb hoax puts school on the edge

On Monday morning, there was chaos at National Hill View Public school in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, South Bengaluru, when the school received an email that said there was a bomb planted at the school premises. The RR Nagar police that pressed its force into action later declared the threat to be a hoax.

A police inspector from Rajarajeshwari Nagar Police station told Bangalore Mirror, "We got the call this morning from school authorities that they have received an e-mail about a bomb planted at the school. We deployed our bomb squad as soon as we got the information. But after a thorough search, we did not find any bomb or any other suspicious object at the school."

The police inspector added that a case has been registered and investigation is currently in progress at RR Nagar station regarding who is behind the fake bomb threat. The police are trying to track the origin of the mail. Further actions will be taken once there is more clarity about the situation.

School premises combed for over an hour; declared clear

This is not the first time a Bengaluru school has received such threat. In April this year, 16 schools in the city received bomb threats through emails. Later, the police said their investigation into the emails showed the involvement of a minor from Tamil Nadu.

According to the reports, the private school had received the email late on Sunday evening. However, it came to light on Monday morning causing panic inside the school premises. The school was soon vacated as the school management sent a notice to the parents asking them to pick the students up from the school. There are about 2,000 students at the school studying in classes 1 to 12.

Police personnel conducted a thorough search for over one-and-a-half hours at the premises, playground and parking to conclude that it was a hoax. The school declared a holiday for a day and would resume school activities as usual from Tuesday. School authorities were unavailable for comment on the situation.

— Saumyangi Yadav

Children wait outside as the school was evacuated

Poll-vaulters in the family

With elections to the State Assembly just nine months away, the countdown has begun and preparations are in full swing. The successors of influential MLAs and MPs are preparing to test their might despite criticism of promoting 'dynasts'. Bangalore Mirror takes a look at the children and family members of influential leaders from the three parties who hope to win big next year.

Congress

Priyanka

The daughter of Satish Jarkiholi, she is currently active in Belagavi district Congress party politics. Former Minister and current MLA Satish Jarkiholi is planning to depute her daughter from the Yamakanmardi constituency and he wanted to contest from the neighbouring Savadatti constituency.

Rajath Ullagaddi

He is the nephew of Lakshmi Hebbalkar, a Congress MLA from Belagavi Rural. Rajath is trying to contest from the Hubballi constituency and is working hard to garner support.

Prashant Deshpande

Son of Haliyal MLA and former Minister RV Deshpande, Prashant is preparing to contest from Yellapur constituency against Labour Minister Shivaram Hebbar who had shifted to the saffron party from Congress.

Raksha Ramaiah

Son of M R Seetharam, a former MLA and MLC who was sulking as he was left out from the MLC list recently. While BJP is wooing Seetharam to contest from Chikkaballapur parliamentary seat as it doesn't want to give ticket to Bachche Gowda. Ramaiah, a youth Congress leader is being groomed to contest from Chikkaballapur constituency to take on incumbent MLA and Health Minister Dr Sudhakar, who had switched sides from Congress to BJP.

Prabha

She is the daughter-in-law of Shamanur Shivashankarappa. Due to his age, Shamanur Shivashankarappa proposed to leave his constituency to his daughter-in-law. His son SS Mallikarjun is contesting again from the Davanagere North constituency. There is a possibility of exchanging constituencies between husband and wife.

Mrinal Hebbalkar

He is the son of Lakshmi Hebbalkar. Lakshmi is a Panchamasali Lingayat leader. She wanted her son to contest from Athani where the community's voters are in majority. He is trying to convince his party leaders and also working in the Athani constituency.

Sunil Bose

He is the son of former minister HC Mahadevappa, preparing to contest from Nanjangud reserve constituency. HC Mahadevappa wants to contest again from T Narsipur.

Shashidhar

Son-in-law of KH Muniyappa, Shashidhar is planning to contest from Devanahalli or any other reserved constituencies. Now, he is an officer in the Secretariat and his wife Roopakala is an MLA from Kolar Gold Field KGF.

Rajanandini

Daughter of former minister Kagodu Thimmappa, she is preparing to contest from Sagar constituency. Currently, she is the general secretary in the party.

Nayana

Daughter of former minister Motamma, she is preparing to contest from Mudigere reserve constituency. She is active in the constituency and is a general secretary of the party.

Santhosh

Son of former minister TB Jayachandra, he is preparing to re-contest from Chikkanayakahalli. He is very active in the constituency even though he lost in the earlier election.

Ravi Boseraj

Son of Boseraj, he is preparing to contest from Raichur city constituency.

Mantar Gowda

Son of A Manju, he is preparing to contest from Madikeri constituency.

Mohammed Nalapad

Son of NA Haris, Mohammed is the president of Youth Congress and an MP aspirant from Bengaluru Central constituency.

Bharat Reddy

Son of Surya Narayana Reddy, he is preparing to contest from Ballari city constituency.

Veena Mahantesh

Daughter of former Minister M P Prakash, she is preparing to contest from Hagaribommanahalli. She is a media spokesperson for Congress.

Aishwarya Mahadev

Daughter of Late Manchanahalli Mahadev, she is preparing to contest from KR Nagar. Currently, she is managing the communication wing of KPCC

JDS

Nikhil Kumaraswamy

Son of HD Kumaraswamy. He had unsuccessfully contested the Mandya MP election where he lost to Sumalatha Ambareesh. Now, he is said to be eyeing Ramanagar or Channapatna constituency.

Sharanagouda Patil

Son of Naganagouda Kandakura, he is preparing to contest from Gurmitkal constituency. He is a JDS Youth Wing leader.

Harish Gowda

Son of GT Devegowda; while GT Devegowda is often sending signals that he is ready to jump ship to other parties, his son is busy preparing to contest from Hunsur. Sources say that GTD may agree to a party which will guarantee tickets to both him and his son.

Bhavani Revanna

Wife of HD Revanna, she is preparing to contest from Hassan constituency from JDS. There is also a possibility of contesting from KR Pet, KR Nagar, or Belur. She has earlier served as a member of Hassan Zilla Panchayat.

BJP

BY Vijayendra

Son of BS Yediyurappa. Vijayendra recently missed a chance as the saffron party failed to nominate him for the MLC. Now, he is hoping that the party may give him a ticket to contest from Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, or Shivamogga constituency.

Arun Somanna

Son of Housing Minister V Somanna. Somanna is interested in making his son's entry into politics from Gundlupet or Hanur constituency. Now, Arun Somanna is managing the VSS Group of Institutions.

Rithin PM

Son of Bengaluru Central MP PC Mohan, he is preparing to contest from Gandhinagar.

MTB Rajesh /Nitish Purushotham

Son of Minister MTB Nagaraj. He is preparing to contest from Hoskote. He has had experience of serving as a BBMP Corporator.

Kantesh KE

Son of KS Eshwarappa, he is preparing to contest from Shivamogga or Haveri. He has experience in being elected for Zilla Panchayat.

Sharath R

Son of R Ashoka. While R Ashoka who is serving as Revenue Minister is representing Padmanabhanagar, sources say that Ashoka is scouting a safe constituency so that his son can debut at either Byatarayanapura or Jayanagar.

Sapthagiri Gowda

Son of Ramachandra Gowda, he is preparing to re-contest from Gandhinagar constituency.

Amaresh Karadi

Son of Sanganna Karadi, he is preparing to contest from the Koppal constituency.

Abhishek Gowda

Son of actor Ambareesh, while his mother is serving as an independent MP, there are rumours that Abhishek may test his luck in the MLA election. His family is yet to announce their party affiliation. Sources say that he may contest from the Maddur constituency.

– Prakash VL

Jabs up for grabs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

60 years of age and those in the age group of 18 to 59.

With this push, the total number of people who are now covered with three doses of covid-19 vaccines has reached 9.27 lakh. As many as 89,606 healthcare workers, 1,21,355 frontline workers, 3,64,675 senior citizens and 3,51,448 individuals between 18 and 59 years of age have taken the dose so far. Government hospitals saw an enthusiastic response over the weekend despite the rain.

"The number of people coming to our hospital for the booster dose has gone up by almost 30% after the announcement. As it is free now, many are making use of the opportunity. Earlier, there was some confusion about the availability of the booster dose, but the recent announcement by the government has cleared the doubt. However, many are taking the dose due to a rise in the number of positive cases in the city. It is a combination of both factors," said KC General Hospital medical superintendent Dr Venkateshaiah.

While the government's latest decision to make the booster dose available free of cost to the people has accelerated the sluggish pace, there is still a lot left to do — the total adult population of the city is 91.7 lakh, only about 10% of this population (9.27 lakh) has taken the jab so far.

"We are expecting even a higher number of individuals turning up for the booster dose over the coming days. The vaccine is available widely; now that the gap between the second and precautionary dose has been reduced to six months, all above 18 years of age satisfying this condition should take the vaccine. While the symptoms of covid-19 have become mild, people should take the booster dose without further delay," said a BBMP official from the health department.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, RASHMI RAJESH SHETTY alias RASHMI RAVINDRA KADOOR, W/o Deepak Ananth, R/o #3013, Prestige Pinewood, 6th Cross Road, S T Bed extension, Cauvery colony, Koramangala 1st Block, Bengaluru – 560034, have changed my name as RASHMI DEEPAK KADOOR, vide affidavit dated 16th July 2022, sworn before notary Rajanna S.M, Bengaluru.

I MARY VELANKANNI W/O, FREEDY JOHNSON, R/o 216, 3rd Main,4th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Medarahalli, Chikkabanavara Post Bengaluru 560090 Have changed my name to MARY JOHNSON For All purposes.

I, VENU GOPAL, S/o, Nanjundappa residing at No. B003, Royal Legend Apartment, K C Halli Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore 560068 have changed my name to VENUGOPAL SAROJA vide affidavit dated 14/07/2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, VEENA PRAKASH DATE, W/o, Rohan Deepak Jadwani residing at No. 246, 11th B Cross, 20th Main, J P Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore 560078 have changed my name to VEENA ROHAN JADWANI vide affidavit dated 11/06/2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, RAHUL CHANDRAVANSHI R/O No.79/1, 2nd Main Road, Nanjappa Layout, Adugodi, Bengaluru - 560030 have changed my name to RAHUL CHANDRAWANSHI for all Purposes.

I, SUDESH POOJARI, S/o, Booba Gangaya Poojari residing at RN-505, Krish Dwellings, 3rd Cross, 6th Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore 560038 have changed my name to SUDESH BOOBA POOJARI vide affidavit dated 14/07/2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Saranya Suriyalaya Suriyan W/o C.S Kannan R/o G-03 Jaya Hibiscus, 3rd main 16th cross, Hoysala Nagar, Doorvaninagar, Bengaluru 560016 have changed my name to SARANYA KANNAN affidavit Dt.18/07/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, Venkatesha M N s/o Narasimhegowda R/o #53 B main road, Opp Dairy, Kadalagere, Pandavapura Tq, Mandya 571431 have changed my name to VENKATESH M N affidavit Dt.18/07/2022 notary K.V Mani, Bengaluru

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I, Prashanth babu Rajshekar S/O Rajshekar KT R/o 219, 2nd E cross 3rd block 3rd Stage Basaveshwara Nagar, WOC Road, Bengaluru 560079, KA Herewith declare that my name Prashanth babu Rajshekar is Right. But In my passport my name has been spelled as Prashantha babu Rajshekar. Today i herewith rectified that my True & correct name is Prashanth Babu Rajshekar.

LOST & FOUND

Public notice
This is to inform the general public that my client m/s DARUL ULOOM FAIZUL ISLAM is the Absolute owner of property comprising of commercial premises, bearing No.586, Ezekiel industrial estate,kadugondanahalli , Arabic college Post, Bangalore - 560045 (formerly property no. 586, kadugondanahalli village,kasaba hobli, Bangalore North taluk) the aforesaid property was acquired by M/S DARUL ULOOM FAIZUL ISLAM under a Registered Deed of sale dated 29.02.1992, registered as Document No.754/92-93,in.Volume 4758 at pages 91-95 of Book I, in the sub Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk. The orginal Sale Deed Dated 29.02.1992, registered as Document No. 754/92-93, in Volume 4758 at pages 91-95 of Book I, registered in the sub Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk pertaining to the aforesaid property has been misplaced/lost in transit by my client. Anyone having found the said document is requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.
Mr.Kishwar Hussain
Advocate & Notary
Unit #158,lll floor, golden plaza,#11, Jumma Masjid Road, Bangalore -560051

EDUCATION FORUM

LED streetlights in Mahadevapura

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Clement Jaykumar from the Mahadevpura Task Force said, "For the last 2-3 years, the budget to install LED lights had been sanctioned but it did not happen as the agency assigned was not carrying out the installation and monitoring. So fresh tenders were called; over five to six companies were finalised and the work has begun."

Some of the junctions to get the high-mast lights include Graphite India Main Road, Ring Road, Old Airport Road, Yemalur Junction, Goshala Road, Hoodi Y Junction among others.

A resident of Carmelaram Road said, "The road has been in a deplorable condition for years; there are hardly any streetlights. It is a nightmare for commuters. We have approached the authorities multiple times but nothing happened. The installation of lights near Carmelaram could provide some relief to the citizens."

Residents pointed out that with no lights in many localities in Mahadevapura zone, there was definitely a risk to the individuals. "It is difficult to commute — one cannot see the roads or the potholes, and could easily meet with an accident. There can even be robberies and theft. Hence the decision to install lights in the zone can bring in a major relief," said Deepa S, resident along Sarjapur Road.

A BBMP official from the electrical department, Mahadevapura zone, said: "We have started with the installation of LED lights; we are looking forward to completing it in the next three months. Some people are confused if it is BESCOM or BBMP carrying out the installation. It is the BBMP that is doing it. Many important stretches will be covered; BESCOM will provide the power supply."

Dr CN Manjunath gets a year's extension

Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research director Dr CN Manjunath (who is also son-in-law of former PM HD Deve Gowda) has got a year's extension. Manjunath was to retire this month. However, many from the public had urged the State Government to give an extension considering Manjunath's good work done in the field of cardiology and making Jayadeva a household name. Dr Manjunath had also served in the Covid advisory panel role as well.

Bowing to the pressure from the public, the government decided to extend his tenure by a year (till July 19, 2023).

Meanwhile, among the other important transfers, IAS officer Thulasi Maddineni, who was Special Commissioner (Finance) BBMP has been transferred as Secretary, Backward Classes Welfare Department. Mahantesh Bilagi has been appointed as Managing Director, BESCOM while Rajendra Cholan P will continue as MD of Bengaluru Smart City Limited. Srinivas K has been appointed as Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District. —BMB

KMF withdraws hike in curd prices

Following backlash from the public, the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has reduced the hike on curd and lassi prices. On Sunday, KMF had issued a note increasing the cost of half litre curd to Rs 24 and 200-ml butter milk and lassi to Rs 11. KMF officials said that they were forced to hike the prices due to the imposition of five per cent GST. However, this move was widely criticised.

Hence, on Monday, fresh orders were issued slashing the hike. As per the latest order, 500 ml of curd will now cost Rs 23, one litre Rs 45; 200 ml of butter milk and lassi (sachet) Rs 7.50. —BMB

HEALTH TIP: Vitamin C-rich lemon seeds can help to nourish and maintain youthful skin.

Consuming dates can help in reducing indigestion as they are rich in fibre.

Alcohol blues

Are you in the age bracket of 15-39 years and love to drink chilled beer? Well, recent studies say it has no benefits at all

Shreyashi Mukherjee
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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Lancet medical journal came out with its analysis, according to which drinking alcohol has no health benefits at all for the people who fall between the age bracket of 15-39 years old.

The journal conducted the report by geographical region, age, sex, and year. The journal used data from 204 countries and came out with the results that 1.4 billion people consumed harmful amounts of alcohol in the year 2020. Out of which 1.03 billion were males and 0.312 billion were females.

According to the report, the recommendations for consuming alcohol should depend on the age as well as location. It also suggested that there should be strict guidelines in place for the people between the age group of 15-39 years as there are no health benefits of drinking alcohol when one falls between that age group.

How alcohol may benefit you if you are over 40

If you are over 40 and have no underlying health conditions a small glass of red wine, a can or bottle of beer or a shot of whiskey or other spirits may help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, stroke, and diabetes, according to a new analysis published in The Lancet.

For the study, the team looked at the risk of alcohol consumption on 22 health outcomes, including injuries, cardiovascular diseases, and cancers using 2020 Global Burden of Disease data for males and females aged 15-95 years and older between 1990 and 2020, in 204 countries and territories.

In general, for individuals aged 40-64 years, safe alcohol consumption levels ranged from about half a standard drink per day (0.527 drinks for males and 0.562 standard drinks per day for females) to almost two standard drinks (1.69 standard drinks per day for males and 1.82 for females).

For individuals over 65 years, the risks of health loss from alcohol consumption were reached after consuming a little more than three standard drinks per day (3.19 drinks for males and 3.51 for females).

On the other hand, the recommended amount of alcohol for people aged 15-39 before risking health loss was 0.136 standard drinks per day (a little more than one-tenth of a standard drink).

That amount was slightly higher for females aged 15-39 years at 0.273 drinks (about a quarter of a standard drink per day).

The findings also suggest that global alcohol consumption recommendations should be based on age and location.

Overall, the recommended alcohol intake for adults remained low at between 0-1.87 standard drinks per day, regardless of geography, age, sex, or year, the researchers said.

IANS

However, for people who are above the age of 40 and do not have any underlying health conditions, alcohol consumption in a limited amount can help in reducing the risk of heart diseases, stroke and even diabetes.

The report also mentioned that for people who are between the age bracket of 40-64 years old, the standard level of alcohol that they should consume is 10 grams of ethanol which is equivalent to 100 ml of wine at 13 per cent of volume or 375 ml of beer at 3.5 per cent volume.

Doctors say that the population of young adults in the city are habituated to the present form of lifestyle where drinking alcohol is a part of their usual lifestyle, hence they must understand the health risks associated with it.

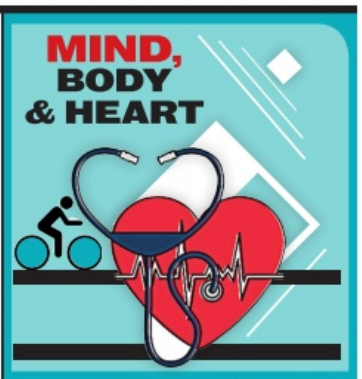
"For youngsters, the excessive stress and workload compels many to consume alcohol, as it helps them to relax

Dr Maltesh K, a general physician, said, "When one is underage and drinking, it definitely puts them under health risks. Under the influence of alcohol, people have often injured themselves and even experienced tragic accidents. Drinking too much alcohol has terrible effects on the liver and kidney, increased risk of strokes, nerve damage, increased vulnerability to getting infections and the list continues. But young people ignore all this and often end up indulging in overdrinking because they think it is a way of relaxation."

The young adults in the city say that they may consume a peg or two at the end of the day to get rid of their work stress.

Rishita Jain, an IT professional, said that consuming alcohol helps to relieve work stress.

"I am not saying that drinking alcohol is the only way to relax, however, my friends and I often feel that a glass or two of wine does make us feel good. We undergo a lot of stress and work pressure. Consuming a glass or two helps us wind down. However, it should definitely be noted that overdrinking and causing problems for others is absolutely unacceptable," she said.



All problems solved

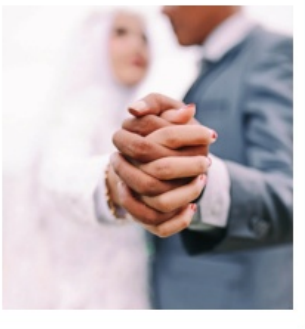
Dear Coleen

I've been with my boyfriend for four years and we've only just moved in together. But when it comes to things I feel are important, he just won't get on board.
He procrastinates or just refuses to discuss things and I find it frustrating, especially when so much about our relationship has been great.
He has only met my parents a handful of times over the years and doesn't make any effort with them, which I know they think is really weird.
He hardly knows any of my friends and I will often go out without him.
I love him, but I don't know what he's scared of and why making any kind of commitment is such a big deal. Please help.

COLEEN SAYS

Well, his attitude could be something to do with his background - you don't mention if he's close to his own family or if his parents are divorced.
But I think he needs to accept that if he wants a proper relationship, then he has to give all of himself and not just the bit he's willing to share.
Tell him you want someone who's all in and if he's not, then you're going to have to think about your future. If you have this chat, you might find out he's not as sure about the relationship as you are, in which case you can make a decision based on what you want.
However, I guess moving in together is a step in the right direction and maybe it's a sign of a changing attitude.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror



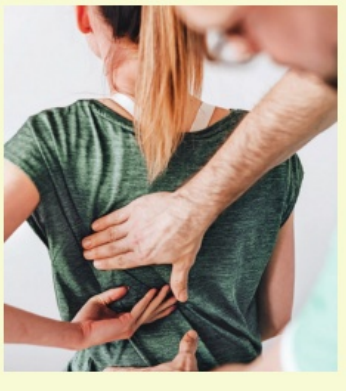
MIRRORLIGHTS

Gene that regulates nerve cells can help chronic pain

Chronic pain is a scourge of our times and affects millions of people worldwide. But treating it is not easy. There are questions like why are some people more prone to it and what factors lead to chronic pain.

Now researchers in Oxford have found an answer. They've discovered a gene that regulates pain sensitivity by amplifying pain signals within the spinal cord on their way to the brain. This throws a light on chronic pain and reveals a new target to treat it. In the first of a two-part study, researchers from Oxford's Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences compared genetic variations in 1,000 participants from Colombia and they spotted one specific gene (the protein sodium-calcium exchanger type-3, NCX3).

David Bennett, a professor of neurology and neurobiology at Nuffield said, "We carried out the study in Colombia because of the mixed ancestry of the population there, including Native Indian, African and European populations, which gave us a broad range of genetic diversity." The researchers did a series of experiments in mice. NCX3 was found to exert an effect on a mouse's spinal cord nerve cells. Increasing the levels of NCX3 within the spinal cord reduced pain in the mouse. The findings imply that any increase the activity of NCX3 would reduce pain in humans. **—Daily Mirror**



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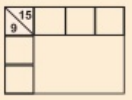
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

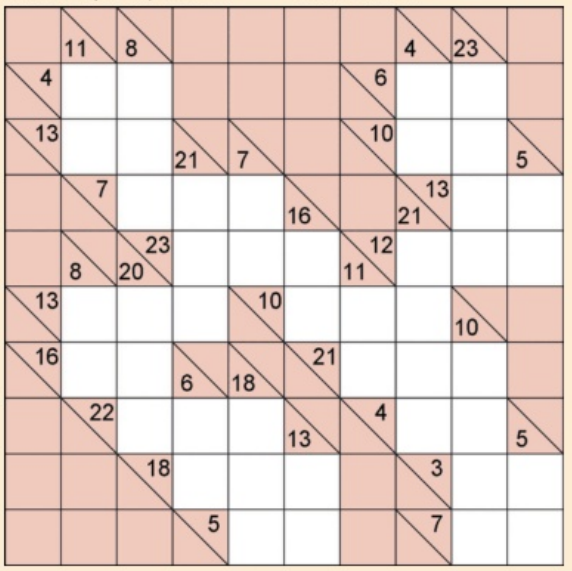
What is the next number of the following sequence
1.414, 1.732, 2.236, 2.646, 3.317, ...

Kakuro

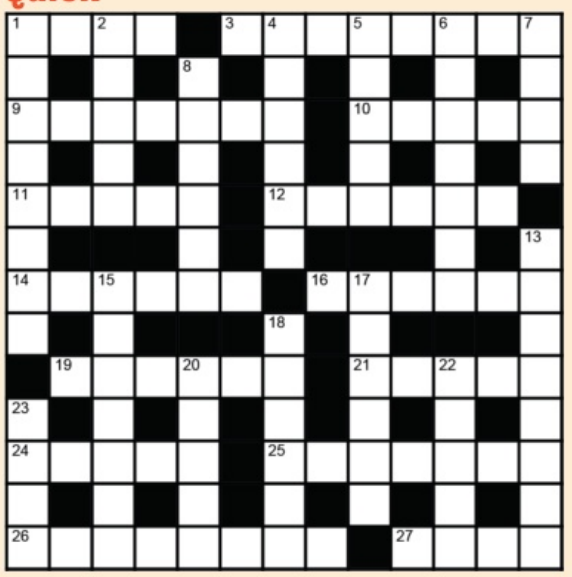
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 ____ and forth : to and fro? (4)
3 Handcuffs (8)
9 Bit daintily (7)
10 Scientist Dr. C. V.___ (5)
11 Mexican plant (5)
12 Sails collectively (6)
14 Unidirectional (3,3)
16 On to the land (6)
19 Case for holding a sword or a gun (6)
21 Garments (5)
24 Gold mines 100 kms out of the city (5)
25 Kingdoms or realms (7)
26 Chastises, disciplines or imprisons (8)
27 Makes a request (4)

DOWN

1 A symptom of a learner driver (5-3)
2 Three-dimensional (5)
4 Junkie (6)
5 Pinafore (5)
6 Back pain (7)
7 Settle down (4)
8 Wool-"ala cap" anagram? (6)
13 Perseveres, endures or remains (8)
15 Grade or level (7)
17 Puts in a bind (6)
18 Dairy product (6)
20 Field measures (5)
22 Hollows out (5)
23 Spring or jump (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS I
RBEW SBOW JG ZJNO CJYZ. XR'L RQW JPFZ IFBSW ZJN QBTW RJ FXTW.

Linemaro

Can I take a picture of you, so I can show my mom the kind of girl she should choose for me?

Mindchow

Just living is not enough ... one must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower

Joke of the day

Can you buy an entire chess set in a pawn-shop?

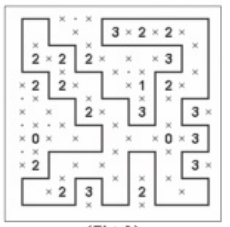
Loop

Rules

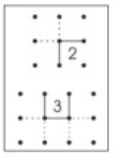
» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

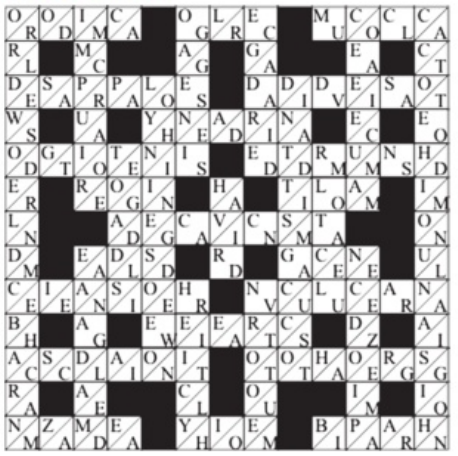


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1 M	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Mt Ass; 6 On hut; 7 Rotes; 8 So ere; 9 Drake

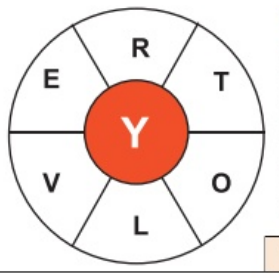
DOWN

1 Mures; 2 A rant; 3 Hooks; 4 Tores; 5 Ed set

Mensapuzzle

What comes next?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			6	4	8			
9			7		2			3
	4	2				8	5	
	2	6				5	7	
			1		5			
	7	9				3	8	
	3	5				4	1	
6			5		3			8
			8	9	4			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

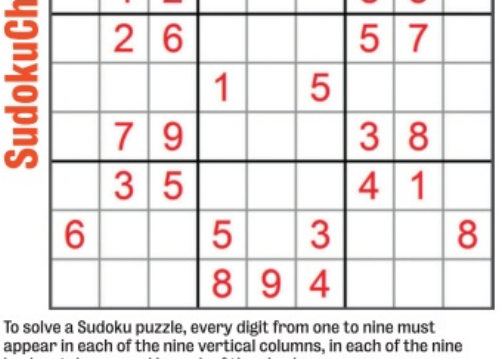
Easy = 28
2 6 7 8

Medium = 14
2 6 8 9

Hard = 1
2 4 4 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



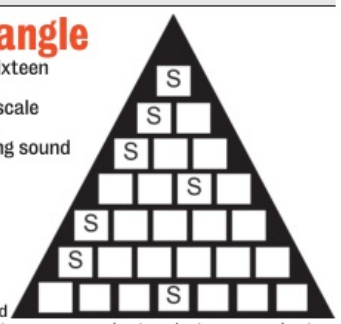
Differences: 1. Apron is shorter. 2. Bat is longer. 3. Bookcase is wider. 4. Picture is different. 5. Hand is moved. 6. Bracelet is moved.

Riddler

Below are incomplete words. Place two letters in each bracket so that you can complete the word on the left and begin the word on the right. Good luck. Fu (—) am Ed (—) ar Dit (—) urch Ju (—) eam Ran (—) ese

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Sixteen
2 Thus
3 Fifth note of the scale
4 Jiminy cricket!
5 Make a murmuring sound
6 Clavell book
7 Accommodation



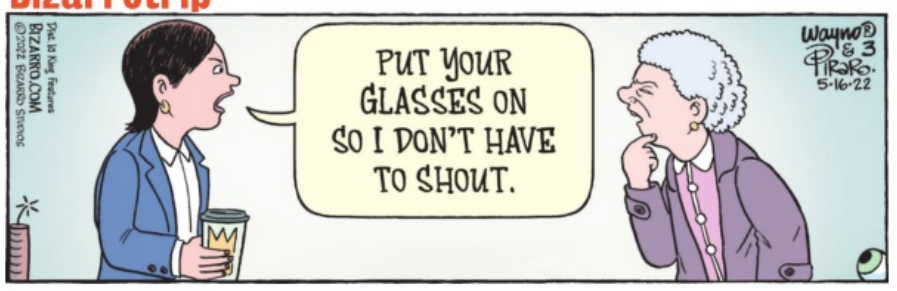
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

I HAD DINNER AT THAT NEW PLACE YESTERDAY
IT'S A COMBINATION DINER AND WEDDING CHAPEL
WHAT DID YOU HAVE?
THE UNION RINGS
www.creators.com
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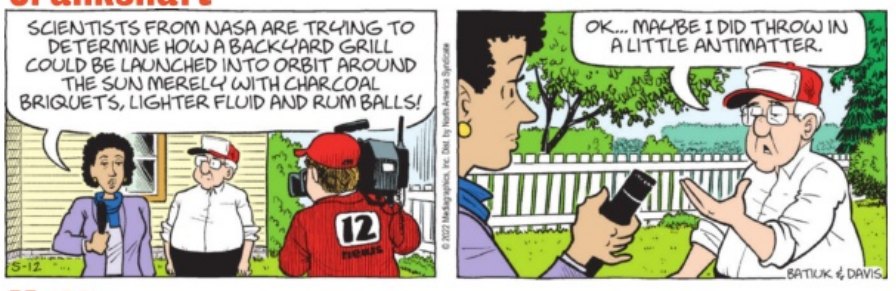
Hart of the city

HERE'S THE PLAN. HEART KEEPS THE THEATER DOOR OPEN AFTER CLASS.
THE PLAN
OPEN DOOR
WAIT! HOW AM I GOING TO DO THAT?
PRETEND YOU'VE JUST BEEN CAST IN "OCEAN'S ELEVEN."
THEN A BETTER QUESTION IS: "AM I A GEORGE CLOONEY OR A FRANK SINATRA?"
GEORGE CLOONEY.

Crankshaft


SCIENTISTS FROM NASA ARE TRYING TO DETERMINE HOW A BACKYARD GRILL COULD BE LAUNCHED INTO ORBIT AROUND THE SUN MERELY WITH CHARCOAL BRIQUETS, LIGHTER FLUID AND RUM BALLS!
OK... MAYBE I DID THROW IN A LITTLE ANTIMATTER.
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

CAT FACTS
MOOCH, DO YOU KNOW WHEN CATS WAG THEIR TAILS THEY'RE WARNING YOU THAT YOU'RE GETTING ON THEIR NERVES?
FWIP FWIP FWIP
I DO NOW.
mutts.com

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may be busy at work today, which may make you mentally tired which may affect your day's routine. You may be able to create an overseas network. you should be careful in terms of investments. A job promotion might happen.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, the situation is under control now. Luck is likely to be with you and may result in gains. You may get some rewards for your hard work. Projects which were stopped without a reason are likely to be reinitiated. You can expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate some amount to any religious place or some charity.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You may face health issues today. You may face losses in the business or past investments. It is advised not to invest in any business. Your gains will convert into losses. So you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise, it will pull down your reputation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be able to perform well in terms of work. Your boss is likely to give you some new responsibility in terms of promotions. Disputes with the partner may be settled. You may lend money. Your kid's health will improve. You are likely to make some investments for kids' futures.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery will likely give positive gains soon. Be careful with elders' health.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may be happy due to a blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of energy which may give you prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Your day might start on a dull note but after late evening, you may be able to control the negativity. New people may connect with you on the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before signing them.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, with the help of blessings, you may have control over your indecisiveness. Your kid's health will improve. Your colleagues may be supportive of your work. You may expect to get some incentives with the salary. People in the field of dairy, water projects, grains, art and culture may do good.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may plan to migrate from your current place to another place today. It is advised to think twice before making decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan to change jobs. There will be peace in your mind. But your kid's health might make you upset. Love birds should keep patience before taking an important decision regarding marriage.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, it may help you to complete the project ahead of time. You are likely to do some work-related travel. An influential person may help you to boost your network.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be busy with a family get-together today. You may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money on buying some artefacts or household stuff which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you will be busy with a family get-together. You may re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in near future. People in art, fashions, films, and media may plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students may perform better today in terms of study. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

KIDZONE

Abhay Nagendra, 9 Years, National Public School

Prerana M, 12 Years, Sudarshan Vidya Mandir

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
1.414 = Sqrt(2)
1.732 = Sqrt(3)
2.236 = Sqrt(5)
2.646 = Sqrt(7)
3.317 = Sqrt(11)
So next prime number is 13 and its root is 3.606

QUOTE UNCODE
Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live.

FAST FIVE

M	A	S	T	S
U	N	H	O	T
S	T	O	R	E
E	R	O	S	E
R	A	K	E	D

BULL'S EYE
lyre, overly, OVERTLY, rely, tyre, very, yore

STRIKE OUT

O	D	I	C		O	R	C		U	C	L	A		
L	M		G		A		A		Y		C			
D	A	P	P	L	E		D	I	V	E	S	T		
W		A		Y	E	A	R	N		C		E		
O	T	I	T	I	S		E	D	M	U	N	D		
R		R	O	N		H		I	O	M		I		
L		A	G	A	I	N	S	T				N		
D	A	D		D		G	E	E				U		
C	E	S	O	R		V	U	L	C	A	N			
A		E		O		E		A		I				
S	H	E	A	T	H		R	O	B	E	S			
P		C		T		C				R				
O	N	E	W	A	Y		A	S	H	O	R	E		
H		C		T		G				P				
Y	U	C	C	A		C	A	N	V	A	S			
N		I		P		I		O		K				
N	I	B	B	L	E	D		R	A	M	A	N		
U		U		A		D		P		U		I		
B	A	C	K		M	A	N	A	C	L	E	S		

QUICK

P	U	N	I	S	H	E	S		A	S	K	S		
I		O		E		S		S		E		T		
K	O	L	A	R		E	M	P	I	R	E	S		
S		E		C		A		O		I				
S	H	E	A	T	H		R	O	B	E	S			
P		C		T		C				R				
O	N	E	W	A	Y		A	S	H	O	R	E		
H		C		T		G				P				
Y	U	C	C	A		C	A	N	V	A	S			
N		I		P		I		O		K				
N	I	B	B	L	E	D		R	A	M	A	N		
U		U		A		D		P		U		I		
B	A	C	K		M	A	N	A	C	L	E	S		

MENSA PUZZLE
E: the number of white dots is increased by one each time, both vertically and horizontally, and all white dots are connected;

RIDDLER
Fuse – seam, edge – gear, Ditch – church, Just – steam, Range – geese

SUDOKU

3	5	1	6	4	8	2	9	7
9	6	8	7	5	2	1	4	3
7	4	2	9	3	1	8	5	6
1	2	6	3	8	9	5	7	4
4	8	3	1	7	5	9	6	2
5	7	9	4	2	6	3	8	1
8	3	5	2	6	7	4	1	9
6	9	4	5	1	3	7	2	8
2	1	7	8	9	4	6	3	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
S, So, Soh, Gosh, Sough, Shough, Housing.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 x 2 + 8 + 6 = 28
Medium
9 – 6 x 2 + 8 = 14
Hard
4 x 2 – 3 – 4 = 1

KAKURO

Volume No 16, Issue No 20 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Sam invited to Melbourne film fest

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne has invited Samantha Ruth Prabhu as one of the key guests for their 2022 event, which is coming back after a gap of two years owing to the pandemic restrictions

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Entertainment Industry Promotion

TILL DEATH DO US APART, FOR REEL & REAL

Stars who got married on screen and in real life

Hollywood stars Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck finally tied the knot just after midnight at A Little White Wedding Chapel, a chapel boasting a drive-through "tunnel of love." A Bluetooth speaker played a song for their brief march down the aisle before saying "I Do". The marriage is a culmination of the couple's romance that began 20 years ago on the sets of their film 'Gigli'. We take a look at more such celebrity couples who got hitched to their partner both on and off the big screen. —ETimes

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh's wedding scene in 'Bajirao Mastani' was not anyone's ideal wedding, unless crying and exchanging vows while drenched in the rain counts. The couple gave fans a real-life fairytale wedding when they got hitched in Italy with only their friends, family and a few guests by their side.

Kajol and Ajay Devgn

Kajol and Anay Devgn's love story began on the film sets. The stars, who worked together in a number of films, had a quiet wedding on the terrace of their Mumbai home with only a select few guests in attendance. Lucky for fans, they were all invited to their on-screen weddings in films, including 'U, Me Aur Hum'.

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt

Long before they wed in their French home, Angie tied the knot with Brad on the set of their 2004 blockbuster 'Mr. & Mrs. Smith' in 2004. Much like their on-screen wedding, the couple kept it simple with Angelina in a bright-white dress while Brad rocked a black tux. Off-screen, the couple wed in the presence of their 6 children and a few family members.

Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck

"How it started, how it's going," said fans as they celebrated the news of Ben Affleck's wedding to Jennifer Lopez. The star couple ditched elaborate wedding plans for a quick drive-through wedding in Las Vegas. "We did it!" the singer wrote, alongside a black-and-white photograph of her holding a bouquet and Affleck kissing her cheek. Interestingly, the couple struck a similar pose after their on-screen wedding in the 2003 film 'Gigli'.

Son Ye-jin and Hyun Bin

In their hit series 'Crash Landing On You', Son Ye-jin and Hyun Bin exchanged rings and vowed never to take them off. The couple kept their vow off-screen as well when they tied the knot in a dreamy private wedding. Unlike their characters, the star couple went all out for the big day and posed for a wedding shoot rocking multiple designer outfits.

Disastrous attempt to 'fleabag' Austen classic

PERSUASION

2.0 RATING ★★☆☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Carrie Cracknell
- **ACTORS** Dakota Johnson, Cosmo Jarvis, Henry Golding
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **DURATION** 109 minutes

What do you expect when you start watching a Jane Austen adaptation? Drama, sweep you off your feet romance, classical music, a lot of mentions of 'drafts' and a quirky heroine, right? Well, you might have to lower your expectations while going into this one.

Netflix's much anticipated Austen adaptation dropped on Netflix on July 15 in India. Much to our disappointment, it failed to capture the true essence of the novel's original story.

The story is of a 28-year-old Anne Elliot, played by Dakota Johnson, who is "single and thriving". By thriving, she means devastatingly hung up on her ex. She is a rich, noble English lady who lives with her snobbish father and elder sister. When she was 20 she fell in love with "a man of no consequence" Frederick Wentworth, played by Cosmo Jarvis. Typical of the regency period England, she was persuaded to give him up. So what happens when fate brings them together after eight years, that too with a devastatingly handsome Mr Eliot, played by Henry Golding in the way. Will their love prevail?

From the gist of it, the story must feel quite familiar but the way Austen portrays it makes it refreshing and charming. However, Carrie Cracknell, the director fails to capture the true essence and maturity of the story. Her desperate attempt to modernise the story ended up taking away its charm. While the technique of breaking the fourth wall (where a character look straight into the camera and addresses the audience) works very well, in this case, it just took away the sobriety of the movie.

The writing feels inadequate and careless. You won't expect an 18th-century English woman to say words like "He is a ten, I never trust a ten".

For the fans of the book, it is even more disappointing. For prose like, "There could have never been two hearts so open, no tastes so similar, no feelings so in unison, no countenances so beloved. Now they were as strangers; nay, worse than strangers, for they could never become acquainted. It was a perpetual estrangement," they got "Now we are worse than strangers, we are exes".

The film feels very familiar to the popular show Bridgeton, save for its good writing. The movie however is a delight to the eye. The exquisite English countryside, the dresses, the ballgowns and of course the beautiful 18th-century architecture. The actors have delivered good performances and have stayed true to the material they were given. The potential of actors like Henry Golding and Dakota Johnson feels underutilised.

So if you haven't read the book, maybe skip this adaptation for a while.

—Tina Freese